Appl. No.: 10/627,504

Art Unit: 1712 Docket No.: B03-50 Reply to Office Action of January 18, 2005

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

(Currently amended) A golf ball comprising a center and a cover, wherein the cover has
a color lightness, L\*, of greater than about 86 following exposure to UV light at an irradiance
power of 1.00 W/m²/nm for a period of about 1 hour to about 4 hours, and the cover comprises:
a reaction product comprising a prepolymer and a curing agent; and
at least one color stabilizer comprising a benzoate having the formula:

wherein  $R_1$  is hydroxyalkylether, alkylphenyl, alkyl, phenyl, hydroxyphenyl;  $R_2$  is H, OH, alkyl, hydroxy(alkylether)amino;  $R_3$  is H, alkyl, OH; and  $R_4$  is H, alkyl.

- 2. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the cover lightness L\* after the UV exposure is greater than about 87.
- 3. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the cover after the UV exposure exhibits a change in the color lightness,  $\Delta L^*$ , of no less than about -7 as compared to the cover before the UV exposure.
- 4. (Original) The golf ball of claim 3, wherein the ΔL\* is no less than about -5.8.
- 5. (Original) The golf ball of claim 3, wherein the  $\Delta L^*$  is no less than about -4.
- 6. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the cover has a color saturation, C\*, of less than about 25 following the UV exposure.
- 7. (Original) The golf ball of claim 6, wherein the color saturation C\* after the UV exposure is less than about 23.

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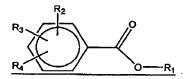
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- 8. (Original) The golf ball of claim 7, wherein the color saturation C\* after the UV exposure is less than about 20.
- 9. (Original) The golf ball of claim 6, wherein the cover before the UV exposure has an initial C\* of less than about 5.
- 10. (Original) The golf ball of claim 9, wherein the initial C\* is less than about 4.
- 11. (Original) The golf ball of claim 9, wherein the cover exhibits a difference between the color saturation after the UV exposure and the initial  $C^*$  before the UV exposure, identified as  $\Delta C^*$ , of less than about 22.
- 12. (Original) The golf ball of claim 11, wherein the  $\Delta C^*$  is less than about 18.
- 13. (Original) The golf ball of claim 11, wherein the  $\Delta C^*$  is less than about 15.
- 14. (Original) The golf ball of claim 6, wherein the cover after the UV exposure has a ratio of C\* to L\* of less than about 0.29.
- 15. (Original) The golf ball of claim 14, wherein the ratio of C\* to L\* of the cover after the UV exposure is less than about 0.25.
- 16. (Original) The golf ball of claim 15, wherein the ratio of C\* to L\* of the cover after the UV exposure is less than about 0.18.
- 17. (Original) The golf ball of claim 6, wherein the cover before the UV exposure has a ratio of C\* to L\* of less than about 0.04.
- 18. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the at least one color stabilizer is present in an amount of about 1% to about 7% by weight of the reaction product.

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- 19. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the cover further comprises a second color stabilizer present in an amount less than that of the at least one color stabilizer.
- 20. (Original) The golf ball of claim 19, wherein the second color stabilizer is present in an amount of about 0.1% to about 1% by weight of the reaction product.
- 21. (Currently amended) The golf ball of claim [[19]] 1, wherein the at least one color stabilizer benzoate comprises ethyl-4-[[(ethylphenylamino)methylene]amino]benzoate or 2 (2H-Benzotriazol-2-yl) 4 methyl-6 dodecylphenol, and the second color stabilizer comprises bis (1,2,2,6,6 pentamethyl 4 piperidinyl) sebacate.
- 22. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, further comprising an intermediate layer disposed between the center and the cover.
- 23. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the cover comprises: an inner cover layer; and an outer cover layer disposed about the inner cover layer, the outer cover layer comprising the reaction product.
- 24. (Original) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the reaction product comprises polyurethane, polyurethane/polyurea blend, polyurea, or polyurethane ionomer.
- 25. (Currently amended) A golf ball comprising a center and a cover, wherein the cover exhibits a color lightness, L\*, of greater than about 86 and a change in the color lightness, ΔL\*, of no less than about -4 following exposure to UV light at an irradiance power of 1.00 W/m²/nm for a period of 1 hour, and the cover comprises:
  - a reaction product comprising a prepolymer and a curing agent;
  - a UV stabilizer comprising a benzoate having the formula:



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wherein R<sub>1</sub> is hydroxyalkylether, alkylphenyl, alkyl, phenyl, hydroxyphenyl; R<sub>2</sub> is H, OH, alkyl, hydroxy(alkylether)amino; R3 is H, alkyl, OH; and R4 is H, alkyl, and being present in a first amount of about 3% to about 7% by weight of the reaction product; and

a light stabilizer present in a second amount of about 0.05% to about 1% by weight of the reaction product.

- 26. (Currently amended) A golf ball comprising a center, a cover, and at least one intermediate layer disposed between the center and the cover, wherein the cover has a ratio of an initial color saturation to an initial color lightness of less than about 0.04, and the cover comprises:
  - a reaction product of a prepolymer and a curing agent;
  - a UV absorber comprising a benzoate having the formula:

wherein R<sub>1</sub> is hydroxyalkylether, alkylphenyl, alkyl, phenyl, hydroxyphenyl; R<sub>2</sub> is H<sub>2</sub> OH, alkyl, hydroxy(alkylether)amino; R<sub>3</sub> is H, alkyl, OH; and R<sub>4</sub> is H, alkyl, and being present in a first amount: and

a light stabilizer present in a second amount less than the first amount.